



Montgomery County, Maryland
Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Solid Waste Services
101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850

RECYCLING COLLECTION HANDBOOK



PLEASE HAVE YOUR
MATERIALS AT THE CURB
BEFORE 7:00 A.M.
ON THE DAY OF YOUR
COLLECTION.



QUESTIONS? PLEASE CALL US AT 240-777-6410
OR EMAIL US AT: recycle@montgomerycountymd.gov
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling

GLASS, METAL & PLASTIC RECYCLING

- *All recyclables must be placed at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on your recycling collection day.*
- **NO PLASTIC BAGS.**
- *Please do not mix paper with these recyclables.*

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS FOR BLUE BIN

- All plastic bottles, jars, tubs, lids, aerosol cans, containers, buckets and pails (up to five gallons), and flower pots.
- Glass and metal food and beverage containers.
- All aluminum food and beverage containers, and foil.



Glass jars/bottles



Aluminum/metal
beverage & food
containers, foil, and
aerosol cans



Plastic bottles, beverage cups, tubs,
buckets, lids, and flower pots

What about clamshell containers?

Currently, clear plastic “clamshell” and Styrofoam® containers are **NOT** accepted in our recycling program.



PAPER RECYCLING

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS FOR BLUE CART

- All clean, dry, paper, newspaper, unwanted mail, books, magazines, cardboard and paperboard boxes.
- If you don't have a blue cart, paper must be in a small paper bag, a box with a secure lid, or bundled with twine. **Each container, bag or box must weigh less than 45 pounds.**
- Shredded paper must be in a **small paper bag, or a box with a secure lid.**
- Flatten boxes to maximize your cart's capacity.



Cardboard boxes



Paperboard boxes & clean pizza boxes



Mixed paper



Newspapers



Paperback & hardcover books



Magazines



Unwanted mail

Do cardboard boxes need to be flattened?

Cardboard boxes no longer need to be flattened for collection. However, flattened boxes make collection more efficient and allow you to put more paper in your cart. Oversized boxes can be placed next to your blue cart for collection.



YARD TRIM RECYCLING

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS FOR YARD TRIM

- Grass, leaves, and brush may be placed in large paper yard trim bags, or reusable cans with a green County provided **YARD TRIM** label on it. **Each bag and container must weigh less than 45 pounds.**
- Brush may also be tied into bundles up to **30" in diameter**. Each piece of brush can be no more than **4" thick and 4' long**.
- Bundles must weigh less than 45 pounds each.



Brush



Grass



Leaves

PLEASE PREPARE YARD TRIM IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:



Cans labeled
"Yard Trim"



Lawn/leaf
Paper bags



Securely
tied bundles

MATERIALS NOT ACCEPTABLE

- NO PLASTIC BAGS**
- Dirt or sod
- Root balls
- Tree stumps
- Lumber
- Rocks

How much **yard trim** can I put out for **collection**?

Since Montgomery County encourages residents to recycle as much as they can, there is no limit on the amount of yard trim that can be placed curbside. However, we do encourage residents to grasscycle and compost their yard trim on their lawn.



GRASSCYCLING AND COMPOSTING

WHAT IS GRASSCYCLING?

Grasscycling is the simple practice of leaving grass clippings on the lawn during the lawnmowing process.

IT'S EASY & ECONOMICAL.

Grasscycling reduces the time and effort spent cutting and maintaining your lawn by eliminating the need to place clippings in lawn bags or containers for yard trim recycling collection. It also saves money by eliminating the need for paper lawn bags.

Basic rule: *Do not cut any more than 1/3 of the length of the grass blade when mowing.*

IT'S ECOLOGICAL.

Through the process of natural recycling, lawn clippings release valuable nutrients. Properly maintained lawns can slow runoff from rain and melting snow, prevent erosion, and trap sediment and chemicals before they enter streams and waterways. They also contribute to cleaner air by capturing dust and other airborne particles.



Interested in **Composting**?

Composting is an easy way to turn yard trimmings, such as grass clippings and leaves, into a soil that will benefit your lawn and garden, rather than using fertilizers that are potentially harmful to the environment.

HOW TO COMPOST USING A COMPOST BIN

1. Pick a location near a water source, and at least one foot from a tree or fence.
2. Use a mixture of leaves and grass.
3. Keep the mixture moist, but not soaked.
4. Turn pile on occasion to aerate it.
5. It can be used for your lawn or garden within 6 to 12 months.



For more information and locations on where to pick-up a compost bin, please call us at **240.777.6410** or visit our website at:

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/yardtrim

SCRAP METAL RECYCLING

SCRAP METAL RECYCLING

- Scrap metal can be collected on your regular recycling collection day. You must call us to schedule this service no later than 11:00 a.m. on the business day prior to your collection day. Contact our customer service line at **240-777-6410**.
- Scrap metal is any item made of 51% or more metal.
- We do **NOT** accept paint cans, oxygen, propane tanks, or items longer than 10 ft.

EXAMPLES OF SCRAP METAL ITEMS:



Appliances



Grills



Lawn
equipment



Metal
furniture



Metal sports
equipment

Safety First!

For gas-powered equipment, please remove the flammable liquid. For lawnmowers, please drain the gas and oil into a proper container and dispose of correctly. For gas grills, please remove the propane tank. For refrigerators/freezers, please remove the doors or tape them shut.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Montgomery County provides a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) drop-off area at our Transfer Station. This program is open to County residents with home-generated hazardous waste. Residents bringing HHW to the Transfer Station should use the Route 355 (Frederick Road) entrance leading to the Public Unloading Facility.

Hours of operations are

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Seven days a week.

The following items are *ACCEPTABLE* for disposal as HHW:

- Insecticides, herbicides and other pesticides
- Fertilizers with herbicides or insecticides
- Paint thinners and solvents
- Swimming pool chemicals
- Corrosive household cleaners
- Unwanted fuels such as gasoline and motor oil
- Photographic chemicals
- Button-type batteries used in watches, hearing aids and calculators
- Oil based/Alkyd paints
- Batteries from small household appliances such as portable phones and electric toothbrushes
- Rechargeable household nickel/cadmium batteries
- Fluorescent light bulbs and tubes
- Mercury or items containing mercury such as thermometers or thermostats
- Vehicle batteries

All patrons must present a valid Maryland Driver's License, with a Montgomery County address.



The following items are *UNACCEPTABLE* for disposal at the HHW site:



- Explosives
- Commercial, industrial or medical waste
- Radioactive materials
- Asbestos
- Dioxins
- Kepones
- Any unidentifiable item

Information about HHW community collection events can be found on our website or in your local newspaper.

The HHW program does not accept materials from businesses or other non-residential entities.

For further information about our *HHW program*, please call the Transfer Station at *240-777-6599*

You may also visit our website to learn more about HHW at:
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hazardouswaste

SHADY GROVE SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION/RECYCLING CENTER

*Great
Indoors*

**Commercial
Entrance**

Recyclable Materials include:

- > Appliances
- > Bicycles
- > Bottles and Cans
- > Clothing and Textile
- > Computers
- > Cooking Oil and Used Oil
- > Electronics
- > Lawn Mowers
- > Mixed Paper
- > Reusable Building Material
- > Scrap Metal
- > Yard Trim

Yard Trim

**Grass
Leaves
Brush**

Scale House

Directions to Public Drop-off

South on Route 355

Cross Shady Grove Road
Turn left at the traffic light (Ridgemont Ave)

North on Route 355

Cross Redland Road / Redland Blvd
Pass Reed Brothers Dodge and Public Storage
Turn right at the light (Ridgemont Ave)

From Interstate 270 (North or South)

Navigate to Local Lanes
Take Exit 8 - Shady Grove Road
At light, turn onto Shady Grove Road
(go East towards Gaithersburg)
Follow 1 mile to Frederick Rd (Route 355)
Right turn to Route 355 South
Left turn at the traffic light (Ridgemont Ave)

**Transfer
Station**

**Pick up Area
(Recycle &
Compost Bins)**



**Frederick Road
Route 355**

MAP & DIRECTIONS

16101 Frederick Rd
Derwood, MD 20855
(240) 777-6560

The Transfer Station has two entrances.

The Route 355 entrance (below) is used by small vehicles bringing less than 500 pounds of material.

The Shady Grove entrance (left) is used primarily by commercial trucks, pick-up trucks, and county vehicles.

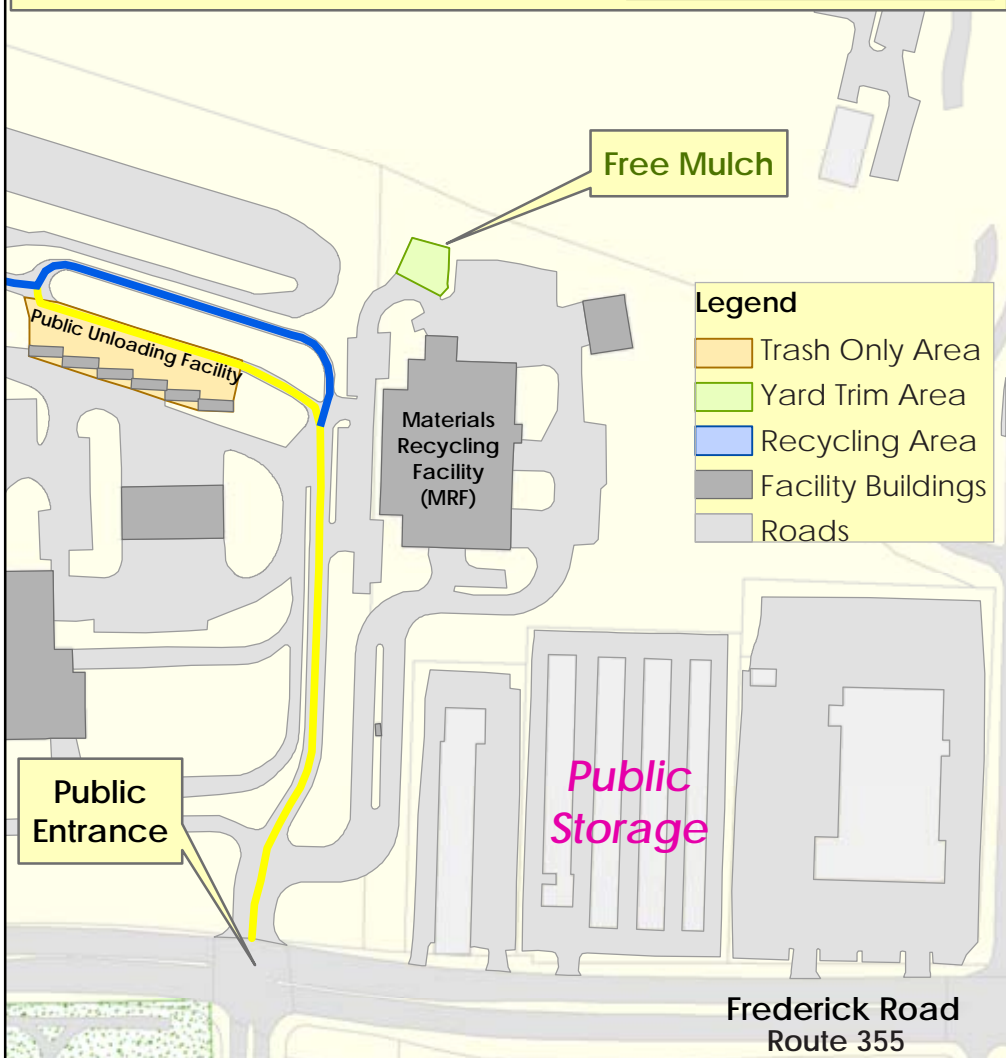
Transfer Station Drop-off Hours:

Small Vehicles

Mon - Fri	7:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Sat	7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Sun	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Truck Entrance

Mon - Sat	7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Sun	CLOSED



HOLIDAY SLIDE SCHEDULE

The County observes the following holidays which alter our collection schedule. When your recycling day falls on one of these holidays, the collection will be made the next day, and remaining pickups that week will slide one day later. The Transfer Station will also be closed on these holidays:

New Year’s Day

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Memorial Day

Independence Day

Labor Day

Thanksgiving Day

Christmas Day

For example:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	HOLIDAY NO COLLECTIONS	Monday Collections	Tuesday Collections	Wednesday Collections	Thursday Collections	Friday Collections

If the holiday falls on a Thursday, for example, collection days prior to the observed holiday will stay the same:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Monday Collections	Tuesday Collections	Wednesday Collections	HOLIDAY NO COLLECTIONS	Thursday Collections	Friday Collections



SOLID WASTE SERVICES GENERAL INFORMATION

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

For information or to schedule a service, please call:

DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday

Customer Service.....240-777-6410

Fax240-777-6466

CLAIMS FOR LOSS OR DAMAGES:

- If you have damages resulting from collections, notify the Division of Solid Waste Services as soon as possible, but ***no later than five (5) days after the incident.***
- The County and/or the collection contractor are not responsible for any items not intended for collection which are placed at or near the curb or roadway on collection day, which are removed by collectors.

ADDITIONAL COUNTY SERVICES:

Animal Control (dead animals).....	240-773-5960
County tree & road maintenance.....	240-777-6000
Housing Code Enforcement.....	240-777-3600
Illegal Dumping.....	240-777-7770
Leaf Vacuuming.....	240-777-6000
Park & Planning.....	301-670-8080
Rat Control.....	240-777-3986

**All items must be at the curb by 7:00 a.m.
on your recycling collection day.**

*For new and updated information,
please visit our website:*

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling



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Division of Solid Waste Services
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Rockville, MD 20850-2589

(240) 777-6410

(240) 777-6465 (Fax)

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling

Email: recycle@montgomerycountymd.gov

This information is available in an alternate format
by calling (240) 777-6400.



Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper.